



No Other Will Do

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Men are optional. That's the credo Emma Chandler's suffragette aunts preached and why she started a successful women's colony in Harper's Station, Texas. But when an unknown assailant tries repeatedly to drive them out, Emma admits they might need a man after all. A man who can fight--and she knows just the one.

Malachi Shaw finally earned the respect he craved by becoming an explosives expert for the railroad. Yet when Emma's plea arrives, he bolts to Harper's Station to repay the girl who once saved his life. Only she's not a girl any longer. She's a woman with a mind of her own and a smile that makes a man imagine a future he doesn't deserve.

As the danger intensifies, old feelings grow and deepen, but Emma and Mal will need more than love to survive.

No Other Will Do Details

Date : Published June 7th 2016 by Bethany House Publishers (first published June 2016)

ISBN : 9780764212819

Author : Karen Witemeyer

Format : Paperback 364 pages

Genre : Historical, Historical Fiction, Christian Fiction, Romance, Christian, Westerns, Christian Romance

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From Reader Review No Other Will Do for online ebook

Staci says

This was a sweet historical romance that included a mystery. Main character Emma Chandler cares more about others than herself. She creates a town, Harper's Station, as a refuge for women. When the town comes under attack, she reaches out to an old friend, Malachi for assistance.

Watching Emma and Malachi protect the ladies in the town and figure out who wanted to harm the town was enjoyable.

I look forward to the continuing series.

Heidi Robbins (Heidi Reads...) says

Once again I was captivated by the unique story that Karen Witemeyer wove with vibrant historical detail, humor, action, and sweet romance. I loved the background of how Malachi came to know Emma and her aunts as a youth. It created a special bond between him and Emma and their rapport as adults picked up right where it left off. He is unfailingly loyal and defends her with a fierce protectiveness. The setting of a western town with no men is fascinating, with a wide variety of characters who live and work in the community. I appreciated that Emma was not portrayed as a man-hater, even though she's witnessed abuse and dealt with some frustrating men. She is open to love and sees the good in all people, males included. Mal's reserved yet passionate nature was a perfect contrast to Emma's more open and positive personality, and as they worked together to protect the community and draw out the villain, their relationship deepens even though Mal doesn't think he deserves her. The person behind the attacks remains a mystery for much of the book, leading me to suspect pretty much anyone suspicious :) Emma and Mal had to do the same in order to catch the perpetrator, even though it was hard for Emma to believe any of the ladies taking refuge in their town could be a traitor. The story explored themes of independence, recovery from abuse, the value and worth of an individual, and finding purpose in following God's will.

(Thank you to the author for a copy of the book in exchange for my honest review)

Gretchen says

This was a really good book and I enjoyed hearing about the women's suffrage movement from a different point of view. I found the history to be very interesting and greatly enjoyed it. While I did not enjoy this book as much as some of her other books its definitely a must read in my book.

Shantelle says

No Other Will Do by Karen Witemeyer is a sweet story with a generous dash of suspense and action.

It's about a young woman banker, Emma Chandler, and her little community filled with abused and recovering women who have a hard time trusting those of the opposite gender. Malachi Shaw is an orphan who Emma helped out when they were younger. Now all grown up, he comes back to help save Emma and her friends from an ominous threat.

Despite little points of uniqueness, *No Other Will Do* is pretty much the standard Christian Historical Romance. All in all, I enjoyed this *mostly* light tale. It was relaxing and sweet. It wasn't my favorite novel by Karen Witemeyer, but I'm sure fans of the author will like it! *smiles*

My few complaints are ... well, mostly some aspects of the romance. The beginning of the book it did feel like we were dealing with a bunch of feminists, but I think that balanced out quite well. Malachi was strong and brave; and stood firm, not backing down even when certain ladies got in his face simply because he was a man.

So, on to my complaints about the romance. Too much of the physical side without any commitments. I'm noticing that kind of thing more and more in Christian novels, (I think I just never noticed it when I was younger), and it bothers me. It doesn't fit with my personal convictions, so that's why it bothers me. I don't know if any of the authors intend this, but sometimes it comes across that enjoying kissing and having physical attraction toward someone equals love.

And some of the romance scenes were a bit overboard in my opinion. I wanted to shout, *Okay, Malachi, you can quit kissing her now! She's not your wife yet!* *Ahem*

Anyway, overall it was an enjoyable western-ish romance.

I received a copy of No Other Will Do from Bethany House Publishers in exchange for my honest review.

? Kaira ? says

Plot - 4

Writing style - 4

Characters - 4.5

Romance - 4

In which a poor young boy stumbled upon a barn seeking for shelter in a cold night in where he met a kid, an angel who saves his life who along with her aunts, adopted him. 10 years later, the two of them reunited, realized that the feelings are still there.

Plot - I've never read a novel that is set in the 19th century, involving a woman having a league perfect for women. The plot was amazing, I have to tell you that. Kept me awake all night wondering who is the man behind all the tragedy. I liked that it has a touch of mystery to it.

And what I love the most about the novel is the epilogue. I was smiling the whole time I was reading it. Humanity restored, indeed.

Oh how enjoyable it is to read their childhood moments.

Writing style - fast-paced. A few boring moments but that didn't stop me from enjoying the novel. I do enjoy the two point of views instead of only the heroine's.

Read it in two sitting because, uhm, I need to sleep. Haha

Characters - not one dimensional. Entertaining and sometimes, felt too good to be true.

The aunts, goodness, they're my favorite so because they are just so kind it makes you wanna cry and thank them and wish people like them truly exist.

The female lead is remarkable as well. I admire her passion when it comes to leadership, boldness, and in helping those in need. She has a heart made of gold. Beautiful inside and out. The type of heroine you want to read again and again.

The male lead is the same. Sweet guy, let me say. Git that typical hero vibes. Acting so tough on the outside but really soft in the inside especially when it comes to "his angel"

Though, I pity him for his tragedies in the past. How I wish I could hug him and pat him in the back

Romance - goodness, throughout the novel, you'll just find yourself rolling your eyes and say, "just kiss!" I mean, they obviously are head-over-heels to each other but they kept shutting their feelings down to themselves which makes it so frustrating.

Nevertheless, the ending was okay but it's a bit of cliffhanger despite the fact that everything was settled.

Andrea Cox says

FTC DISCLAIMER: I received a complimentary copy of this book from NetGalley. A positive review was not required. These are my honest thoughts and opinions.

Boy, oh boy! Or should I say, Gal, oh gal!

This adventure featuring a women's colony was a delightful tale that kept me in stitches from page one through the finale. I can hardly wait to get to the next installment or two. I really liked how it featured an explosives expert as well as the suffragette movement. Though the latter is not my favorite topic ever, and a couple of moments in the story were a tad abrasive in pushing women's rights, I thought it was handled in a funny way in most instances, which took the sting right out of the women-only stance that irks me. Ms. Witemeyer's trademark humor was laced into every aspect of this book, sometimes delicately while other times were in-your-face hysterical.

Things I didn't like included:

- * a disrespectful name for God (Big Man; used once)
- * swearing "by all that was holy" (used once)
- * one profanity
- * a pair of horses' names were those of mythological gods, and this was highlighted in a couple of scenes, intentionally drawing attention to the fact that they're mythological in nature
- * "Heaven" was used in vain numerous times throughout the story.

Had those things been cleaned up, this unpredictable story would have easily claimed all five stars from me and been tagged as a favorite. It was a precious romp through an Old West town, with all the hijinks you'd imagine would take place in a colony filled with nothing but women and children. Oh, there's trouble a-brewin'!

And I can only think there must be many more adventures in store for the Ladies of Harper's Station!

Deanne Patterson says

What a gentleman, I've fallen in love with Malachi Shaw :)

Hannah says

Yes, I know. It just came out today. :)

Well, actually, it got to my bookstore a few days early, so I began reading it late Sunday night after finishing two others that needed my attention. I haven't been at all tempted to lay it aside, though work and sleep got in the way twice before I could finish it today. The action is non-stop, and the characters show lots of spunk in the face of a villain determined to do what it takes to get them out of his way.

Normally I don't like women who're determined to do everything all by themselves, but Emma stole my heart before the first chapter was over!

Kathy * Bookworm Nation says

I'm a big fan of Karen Witemeyer and have been looking forward to this release. This was a really fun and unique story. I loved the setting and characters.

Emma is full of spunk and heart, she's an easy character to like and root for. Malachi is a fun mix of broody and charm. He has a complex past that makes him an interesting character, choosing to rise above his upbringing and really making something of himself. He still doesn't feel worthy of Emma though. These two have a great relationship, I loved their friendship and their fun chemistry. They definitely have sparks!! I hope some of the supporting characters get their own books/novella, I'd love to return to this charming town.

Overall, a fun escape and one is recommend.

Content

Romance: Clean

Language: None

Violence: Mild-Moderate, nothing overly graphic

Religious: Moderate

Source: Review copy

Alicia says

Loved this one! 4.5 stars. It took me a little while to get into it (hence I'm docking off .5 stars) but once I did, I couldn't put it down! Harper's Station, a women's colony, was an interesting setting and I loved how fiercely determined Emma Chandler and the rest of the colony were to stand up and fight against the assailant who was sending threats.

The author, as always in her novels, created a novel balanced perfectly in regards to action, romance, serious moments, Biblical lessons and funny scenes. There's this one scene that cracked me up, where the hero (Malachi Shaw) doesn't hear the full conversation and thinks that they're talking about a man and not a snake. You have to read the story to find out what that's about, but that gave me a good laugh!

And speaking of Malachi Shaw- the perfect hero! He and Levi from *To Win Her Heart* are now my favourite Witemeyer novel heroes. :)

Jaye Knight says

I am so behind in reviewing this book, but you know, life. Anyway, as I always say, Karen Witemeyer is one of my top favorite historical writers. I look forward to every one of her books. I really enjoyed *No Other Will Do*. I probably liked it even better than the last two books that came out. I loved Malachi, and Emma was one of the more likeable heroines I've read about. (I always seem to have issues with the heroines. I'm just weird that way.) This book was particularly interesting because it took place in a women's colony. That is something I've never read about before. I think the only disappointment I actually had with this book was the cover. I miss how the old covers looked. I thought it made Karen's books more unique. This one looks too much like so many other historical romances. But that's just me, and it did nothing to detract from the story. Seriously, if you enjoy historical romance and haven't checked out Karen Witemeyer's book yet, you absolutely must.

Amy says

Whew! What a rush!!!! Witemeyer's newest romance blends a hearty dose of suspense into her trademark sizzling chemistry to create a heart-pounding page turner! I literally could NOT put it down! Look for my full review on Fiction 411's BookTalk closer to the release date!

Ruth says

This book was so amazing I couldn't put it down! There was all these twists and turns that you had to find out who the culprit was. It kept me guessing till the end! I love the way Karen Witemeyer writes about God and romance! My two favorite things in the world! This story is about a girl names Emma and her journey through a loss of a mother and father. She then moves in with her two spunky aunts and helps an orphan named, Malichai. He leaves but when she sends an urgent letter for help, he comes right away. As he is

there attractions blooms between them that could grow into something even more beautiful. I hope you guys enjoy this book as much as I did!

Jessica Wolf says

I've read a couple of Karen's books before this one and really enjoyed them, so I went into No Other Will Do with high expectations. While this novel was good, I tend to agree with other reviews and say that this is not her best. The book, of course, is written very well and each character has their own unique voice, but nothing about the story really clicked with me. I did enjoy the idea of a women's colony and whatnot, but I didn't particularly enjoy Emma or Malachi's character. She was a bit too... frustrating and bossy for my taste. He was too dramatic. I will definitely be reading the novella about Tori and Ben, though, and I would suggest this story to others as it is done well.

Jerry says

What a great story! Action, romance, mystery...this one has it all!
